GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:52
ANSWERED ON:20.02.2003
RAIL ACCIDENTS
RAMPAL SINGH

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to do the maintenance work of the Railways through machines in order to avoid rail accidents;

(b) if so, whether any action plan has been formulated in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which entire maintenance work is likely to be started through machines in the Railways?

Answer

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF STARRED QUESTION NO.52 BY SHRI RAMPAL SINGH TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 20.02.03 REGARDING RAIL ACCIDENTS.

(a): The machines are already being deployed for maintenance of track wherever the track structure is suitable for the same and their number is increasing progressively. The maintenance work of Railway track with machines is one of the asset maintenance activities undertaken for delivering superior track geometry and making the rail travel more comfortable and safe.

Machines are also being used extensively in various Railway workshops and maintenance depots for maintenance of rolling stock and other railway assets having a bearing on safety.

(b), (c) & (d): An action plan has been drawn to procure more number of machines for complete mechanization of essential activities of track renewal and maintenance. According to the action plan, additional track machines worth about 2,100 crores are required to be procured apart from replacement of existing machines on age-cum- condition basis. The additional machines are likely to be in position by the year 2012 subject to availability of funds. Certain activities will however continue to be done through manual means as the same cannot be done by machines.